

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

Howard County

June 2015 Edition

## Welcome!

The school year is winding down and summer is just around the corner. As you begin planning your vacations I wanted to take this moment and share the latest edition of my newsletter, highlighting upcoming events and ways to stay engaged in our community. For more up-to-the-minute information, **"Like" me** on Facebook or **"Follow" me** on Twitter (@CalvinBallTeam). You can also register for District 2 updates through [NotifyMeHoward](#).

Have questions, comments, concerns or ideas on how we can be doing better to serve Howard County? I invite you to call my office at 410-313-2001 or email me at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov).

If you would like to register and receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

## Inside this issue:

Middle School Takeover	1
LR Urban Renewal Plan	1
Community Mtgs	1
Festival of Arts	1
Community Policing Forum	2
Open Streets	2
ArtReach	2
HCLS Bookmark Contest	3
Paint It! Ellicott City	3
Beautification Grants	3
CA Lakefront Festivals	3
BGE Tips to Beat the Heat	4

## CA Youth & Teen Center Celebrates Summer

The school year will soon be coming to a close, and so it's time for middle school students from Howard County to celebrate with a party at Columbia Association's Supreme Sports Club. The Middle School Supreme Sports Club Takeover will be held **Friday, June 12 7-11pm** and students will enjoy basketball, rock climbing, roller skating, swimming, Nintendo Wii iDance, racquetball and more! Pizza and beverages will be included. The cost is \$5. Deadline to sign-up is Wednesday, June 10 and parents/guardians should register kids at the Youth and Teen Center at The Barn, 5853 Robert Oliver Place. For more details, call **410-992-3726** or email [CATeens@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:CATeens@columbiaassociation.org).

## Long Reach Village Center Urban Renewal Plan Community Meetings Continue

I want to thank the hundreds of residents who have joined me, the Long Reach Village Board, our consultants, stakeholders, and our dedicated County staff who have attended the first two community meetings as we work to develop an Urban Renewal Plan for the Long Reach Village Center. Your feedback is vital as we work towards a new vision and future for our community.

There will be two additional community meetings as we move forward, both will be held at 7pm at the Stonehouse. Today, June 11, attendees will be presented with conceptual architectural plans and solicited for feedback. On Thursday, September 17, 2015, final concept plans will be presented to the community. I invite you be a part of this continued community conversation about our shared vision for the future of our Long Reach Village Center.



## Columbia Festival of the Arts



The 2015 Columbia Festival of the Arts kicks off **June 12-14** with its FREE opening weekend-long event on the Columbia Lakefront. It will include live music on the Lakestage, kids' entertainment and crafts, an invitational arts and crafts show & sale, strolling performers, festival food fare including Maryland Wineries and Horseshoe Casino Brew Zone, as well as a variety of activities for all ages. Hours are as follows: **Friday, June 12 5-11pm; Saturday, June 13 12pm-11pm; Sunday, June 14 12pm-7pm**. For more details, go [online](#) or call **410-715-3044**.

## Community Policing Forum

The Howard County Police Citizens' Advisory Council invite residents to participate in a community policing forum on **Wednesday, June 17, 2015 7-9pm** at **Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Rd** in Columbia. Participants will be asked to share their ideas on topics including: Police Technology, Officer Training, Community Outreach Programs and Neighborhood Police Satellite Offices. If you're unable to attend this forum, the CAC will host another identical public forum on **Wednesday, July 22, 2015 7-9pm** at **Mt. Hebron High School, 9440 Old Frederick Rd** in Ellicott City. For more information, email [policeiaison2@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:policeiaison2@howardcountymd.gov).



## Open Streets Howard County



Are **Open Streets** the future of Howard County? Here's your chance to find out. The Little Patuxent Parkway loop in Clary's Forest will be the site of the first Open Streets Howard County event on **Saturday, June 13, 2015 10am-2pm** which kicks off at **Swansfield Elementary School, 5610 Cedar Lane** in Columbia. This event allows residents of all abilities to envision and experience different possibilities for creating pedestrian and bicycle friendly streets in Howard County while enjoying fun outdoor activities for all ages.

And if Open Streets alone aren't enough to get you excited, there will be tons of fun activities as well! Zumba classes, a climbing wall, and bike trick demonstrations can be found around the Loop. Got kids? There will also be face painting, chalk painting and scavenger hunts. Kids competing in the scavenger hunts may win some great prizes! Remember: Wear sunscreen and bring your water bottle! Need a bike? Thanks to Race Pace Bicycles, there will be a few kid-sized bikes for the little ones to try out. For more info, contact **Ian Kennedy** at [ikennedy@thehorizonfoundation.org](mailto:ikennedy@thehorizonfoundation.org) or 443-472-3559.

### World Elder Abuse Awareness

**June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** and an opportunity to educate the public about the signs of abuse or neglect and what to do if one suspects a person is a victim. Signs include: lack of basic hygiene, adequate food or clean and appropriate clothing; lack of medications, walkers or hearing aides; a person confined to bed or with dementia left without care; a home that is in disrepair or without adequate facilities like heating or cooling, functional plumbing and electricity; changes in behavior; or unexplained fractures, bruises, cuts, cores or burns. This year's theme is "One Person. One Action. One Nation. United Against Elder Abuse. To learn more, you are invited to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Protecting Older Adults" Elder Abuse Awareness Conference on **Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 8am-4:30pm** at the **Sheraton Columbia Town Center Hotel, 10207 Wincopin Circle** in Columbia.

## ARTreach Community Arts Festival

Join us for ARTreach, a free, one-day, community arts festival outdoors at the Long Reach Village Center on **Saturday, June 20, 2015 11am-4pm**. The arts are vital to building positive, thriving places to live, work and play. Help us engage the community and re-imagine Long Reach – **the village with a heart** – by infusing its center with visual, literary, and performing arts! For more information, check out our [website](#) or call 410-313-2787.



## 2015 Howard County Farmers' Markets Are Open!

Foodies can now purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables from area farmers! Our 2015 **Howard County Farmers' Market** season has begun and will run through November 22. Howard County will have 7 convenient locations where shoppers can buy fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, eggs, baked goods and much more!

**Howard County Library-Miller Branch** (9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City)

Hours of Operation: Wednesdays 2-6pm; Season: May 6-November 11

**Oakland Mills Village Center** (5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Sundays 9am-1pm; Season: May 10-November 22

**Howard County General Hospital** (5755 Cedar Ln, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Fridays 2-6pm; Season: May 8-October 30

**East Columbia Library Market** (6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Thursdays 2-6pm; Season: May 7-November 19

**Ellicott City Old Town Farmers' Market** (Uptown at the Win Bin and Midtown at Little French Market)

Hours of Operation: Saturdays 9am-1pm; Season: May 9-October 31



## Second Annual Fashion and Performing Arts Extravaganza

Auditions will be held on **Saturday, July 11, 2015 12-2:30pm** at the Columbia Art Center for the Le'Chic Academy's 2015 Second Annual Fashion & Performing Arts Extravaganza! They are in search of experienced and non-experienced young ladies, ages 4-18 who aspire to model, sing, dance, act, cite poetry or play a musical instrument. Male models, ages 4-18, are also being auditioned who will be escorting the ladies down the runway. Selected models will participate in an Artist Meet & Greet reception, empowerment workshop series and end-of-year "Attitude of Gratitude" Model Appreciation Banquet.

For more information, go [online](#) or email [lechicmodels@outlook.com](mailto:lechicmodels@outlook.com).

## Howard County Government Launches “Utilli” & H2o – Help to Others Program

Howard County Government unveiled a new application that gives our water and sewer customers instant account access. “Howard County Utilli”, a mobile and web-based application, provides users with 24 hours/day, 7 days/week secure access to their water and sewer account as well as the option to pay their bill online without incurring a convenience fee! Creating an account takes only minutes and customers can view consumption, billing/payment history and meter reading history. There are also options to sign-up for the County’s Direct Debit program or donate to the new “H2O Help to Others” program, the Council enacted last year, which went into effect this past March which connects County residents who need help paying their bills with residents who want to help. Residential customers may voluntarily round up their bills to the nearest dollar. For more details or to register, go [online](#).

## HCLS 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bookmark Contest



Unleash your creativity with HCLS’ bookmark contest celebrating its 75th anniversary. The contest runs through **July 15<sup>th</sup>** and is open to all students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade who live or attend school in Howard County. Children who attend home school or who attend a school without grade levels should enter the comparable grade level. Bookmarks judged on originality, design, and reproducibility. Winning bookmarks become the property of Howard County Library System. They will be printed and distributed as HCLS bookmarks, used in other Library related materials, and posted on the HCLS web site. Entry forms and guidelines available [online](#).

## Paint It! Ellicott City

Come watch artists hit the streets of Historic Ellicott City for this popular plein air event **July 10-12!** This annual event features artists who will paint in the picturesque historic district of Ellicott City for three days in July creating work that will be shown in a six-week exhibit at Howard County Arts Council’s (HCAC) Gallery I. Artists who are not juried into the exhibit may still participate in the paint-out and an exhibit at the Howard County Welcome Center. Participating artists will also enjoy a welcome reception and presentation by the juror, an exhibit reception, juror’s awards, and discounts on area hotels and attractions provided by Howard County Tourism. NEW to the event this year will be an Ellicott City Ghost Tour & Nocturne Paint-Out, and a quick draw competition.

To be eligible, all artists must be 18yrs old working en plein air in oil, acrylic, pastel or watercolor. There is a \$30 nonrefundable fee which goes towards awards and costs for the event. For details, go [online](#).

## Cul De Sac/Street Beautification Grants

The Long Reach and Oakland Mills Community Association are pleased to announce that funds are now available for street beatification on a first-come, first-serve basis. LRCA landscaping grants could provide funds up to \$200 for approved plans for the purchase of plant materials and provide coupons from local nurseries to help stretch your dollars. Hurry – Application packets are available until August 30. Call **410-730-8113**. OMCA Cul-de-sac Beautification grants of up to \$75 are available for up to 15 streets. There are also block party reimbursement funds of up to \$25 available for up to 20 streets. Funds will be reserved based on availability once a request is received. Landscape proposals need to accompany the requests. For more details, email [manager@oaklandmills.org](mailto:manager@oaklandmills.org) or call **410-730-4610**.



### **Blandair Park Rd Closure**

Oakland Mills Road to be closed on or about June 22. Click [here](#) to view the map for alternate routes to the park.

## CA’s Lakefront Summer Festival

Another great summer of movies, concerts and much more is beginning with the return of Columbia Association’s annual Lakefront Summer Festival! The schedule includes complete free, family friendly offerings nearly every evening of the week. A full schedule can be found [online](#). Movies will be screened at Lake Kittamaqundi under the stars on Mondays and Fridays **June 15-August 21**. Then, **August 22-September 12**, CA will show movies every Friday and Saturday. All showings begin at dusk (about 8:30pm).



## July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival & Fireworks



Join Howard Countians for the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival & Fireworks celebration **Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 5-10pm** at **Columbia Lakefront, 10275 Wincopin Circle** in Columbia. The event features live entertainment on two stages, food and refreshments and fireworks set to begin at dark. Go [online](#) for more information or call **410-313-4700**.

## Collision Avoidance Training

The HC Police Department will be conducting Collision Avoidance Training (CAT) classes March-December. This is an advance defensive driving and vehicle control program for licensed teen driver's ages 16-20. This one day program (8.5 hours) is designed to provide young drivers with the knowledge and understanding of vehicle dynamics and will provide practical exercises that demonstrate how the vehicle responds in a given situation and how to regain control of the vehicle. Driving skills addressed include: evasive maneuvers, threshold/emergency braking, forward serpentine, cornering, backing, reverse serpentine and skid and off-road recovery.

Students must operate their own vehicle and successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver to receive a certificate of completion. Cost is \$95. Sessions are: **June 27, July 25, August 22, September 19, October 17, November 21 and December 12.** For more details, contact Ms. Jessica Beram at 410-313-3758 or email [JBeram@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:JBeram@howardcountymd.gov).



### A/C & Dehumidifier Recycling Event!

Drop off your old winter A/C & dehumidifiers on Saturday, June 23 2-8pm at Columbia Athletic Club (5435 Beaverkill Rd, Columbia) and receive \$25 from BGE!

## BGE Tips to Beat the Heat

Summer is quickly approaching and BGE would like to remind electric customers with smart meters to be ready to take advantage of Energy Savings Days, typically the hottest days of the year when electricity use is at its highest. BGE will notify customers that an Energy Savings Day has been scheduled and those who voluntarily reduce their use on those days are eligible to receive BGE Smart Energy Rewards®. These bill credits provide \$1.25 for every kilowatt-hour reduced from 1pm to 7pm compared to typical usage.

Participants in BGE PeakRewards® program receive bill credits by allowing their central air conditioner and/or electric water heater to be cycled during periods of peak electricity usage. Customers can follow these simple tips to save energy and money this summer:

- **Turn it off:** Turn off all unnecessary lighting and devices.
- **Manage your thermostat:** Keep thermostats at a constant, comfortable level when at home. Raise the thermostat setting for days of extreme heat to save even more. Install a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust your home's temperature settings when you're away or sleeping.
- **Keep shades, blinds and curtains closed:** About 40 percent of unwanted heat comes through windows. Simply closing blinds and curtains, which act as a layer of insulation, can reduce heat in your home.
- **Use ceiling fans to circulate air:** For those without air conditioning, use ceiling fans or portable fans with the windows partially open to circulate fresh air into your home. For those with air conditioning, fans can be used to evenly distribute cool air.
- **Use appliances wisely:** Run appliances that produce heat (like clothes dryers, ovens and dishwashers) at night when it is cooler.
- **Be energy smart:** Use energy more efficiently through the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program® that includes Quick Home Energy Check-ups, lighting discounts, appliance rebates and many more energy saving programs at [www.BGESmartEnergy.com](http://www.BGESmartEnergy.com).

For more information on BGE's SummerReady program, go [online](#). BGE customers experiencing a power outage, please call 1-877-778-2222.

## Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)!

Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) are grants up to \$2,000 to assist adults with development disabilities and families with a child with developmental disabilities with purchasing services and/or items to address needs. MD residents who have a developmental disability, their family or authorized representative may apply. Requests can be submitted **January 1-31 and July 1-31** of each year.

For more details or to receive a copy of the application, go [online](#) or contact the LISS agency serving Howard County: Penn Mar Human Services, 410-357-0891; 1-877-282-8202; TTY: 711 or email [LISS@penn-mar.org](mailto:LISS@penn-mar.org).

## Settlement Downpayment Loan Program!

Looking to buy a home or relocate in Howard County? Howard County Housing has invested \$400,000 to the Department's Settlement Downpayment Loan Program (SDLP) that will offer homebuyers a deferred second mortgage loan, to be used by those preapproved for settlement costs and downpayments. Buyers must agree to occupy the home as their primary residence. Interest rates are set at 2 percent below the first mortgage interest rate and repayment of the loans is deferred until resale, refinance or default.

## Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.





#### **NEW MD Law on Compulsory School Attendance**

The MD General Assembly passed and the governor signed into law Senate Bill 362, Age for Compulsory Public School Attendance, which increases the age of compulsory school attendance from 16 to 18. Phase I becomes effective on July 1 & increases the age from 16 to 17. Phase II must be fully implemented by the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year and further increases the age from 17 to 18.

## **Calling All Youth and Teens!**

Get involved and be a part of the solution. Have fun and make new friends! Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee is now seeking young individuals to attend monthly meetings and help get involved in their community by planning, organizing and implementing positive programs and activities for their peers.

HS students (Ages 13-19) and MS students (Ages 11-13) are invited to call **410-992-3726** or email [CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org](mailto:CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org) to sign-up. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month **6:30-8pm** at the Youth & Teen Center in The Barn, **5853 Robert Oliver Place** in Columbia.

## **Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!**

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth. I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

**4H Club:** For youth grades 3+. Meets **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month** at The Other Barn **3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

**Art Attack:** Creative after-school enrichment program at Columbia Art Center. Meets **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays**. Registration/Fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.

**Columbia Teen Center**      **410-992-3726**

[Howard County Library](#)

**Voices For Change:** Email Meg Mekelburg for more info [MMekelburg7@verizon.net](mailto:MMekelburg7@verizon.net)

## **Make a Difference in a Student's Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!**

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to HCPSS students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook, Stevens Forest and Swansfield. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan at [aokmentor@gmail.com](mailto:aokmentor@gmail.com) or call **410-730-6030**.

## **NeighborRide Seeks Volunteer Drivers!**

Summer is a great time to make a difference in your community! NeighborRide invites you to help decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County seniors by volunteering to provide rides for medical appointments, social outings, religious services, fitness activities, shopping, and other needs. Daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available and **NO SET SCHEDULE IS REQUIRED**.

Parents are welcome to bring their children along when volunteering for a wonderful inter-generational experience. Contact **410-884-7433** or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information or go [online](#).

## **TotallyHoCo – Howard County's new online calendar!**



Have you ever wanted a centralized place to see many of the events happening locally? Maybe you are looking for a way to let more local people know about the event you're hosting. There's a new online calendar in Howard County that can help you find, share and post events! It's [TotallyHoCo.com](http://TotallyHoCo.com), and it's free to use. Check out the categories of events such as Family Friendly, Music, Game Nights, Arts & Culture, Girls Night Out and more!

## **In Need of Crisis Intervention?**

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland which empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services. They provide programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at **6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044**. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org). The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

## Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

**TAX CREDITS:** The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

## Free Financial Coaching!

MyBudgetCoach was launched by MakingChange in partnership with [Maryland CASH Campaign](#) and helps working families & individuals improve their ability to budget and make well-informed financial decisions. Understanding the importance of budgeting is generally recognized as the first step in successful financial planning. Participants meet with a trained volunteer coach once a month for 12 monthly sessions. Budgeting techniques, financial management and goal attainment strategies are included. Participants and coaches use on-line tools to track progress in real-time.

Contact the MyBudgetCoach Relationship Manager, **Leslie Petak**, at [petakl@makingchangecenter.org](mailto:petakl@makingchangecenter.org) if you are interested in participating in the program. MakingChange provides group seminars and personal coaching to teach people to manage their money and change their lives. Its programs are offered in schools, human service agencies and businesses. For more information, visit [www.makingchangecenter.org](http://www.makingchangecenter.org).

## Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email [GangTips@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:GangTips@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email [CToler@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CToler@howardcountymd.gov).
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email [KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov)
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available [online](#).
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email [animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov) or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

## Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!



The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community which is designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors. For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

## Give the Gift of Independence!

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information.

## "Guaranteed Ride Home"!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation. To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register [online](#) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

## Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or go [online](#).

## Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, click [here](#) or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or go [online](#).

## Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Online-Form-to-Report-Fraud-Waste-and-Abuse>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email [hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov) or call 410-313-2005.

## I Want to Hear From You!

As your Councilmember, it's my mission to engage with you and your community. Your testimony is always welcome as the Council considers legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to [Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov) or fax 410-313-3297.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. You can view our calendar [here](#).

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Council  
[District 2](#)  
[Email Me](#)  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

*"Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."*  
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.